

Tellico Village Computer Users Club

October 13, 2009 Board Meeting

3:00 PM Meeting called to order by Warren Sanders.

Board Members Present: Warren Sanders, Dick Schmeling, Jan Schneck, Vince Alline, Bob Foster, Dennis Malcolm and Dean Miller

Board Members Absent: Sharon Addison and Jim Peterson

Also in attendance: Frank Fritchman, Bob Muggle

Dick Schmeling motioned to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2009 Board Meeting and the October 6, 2009 General Meeting. Vince Alline seconded. Board approved.

OFFICER REPORTS

President, Sharon Addison – No report

Vice President – No report

Secretary, Jan Schneck – No report

Treasurer, Dick Schmeling

- Distributed the Treasurer's Report for the month of September. The Club received \$165 in membership dues, \$100 in scanner fees and \$0.68 of bank interest. There were expenses for Consumable Supplies of \$110.93 and \$50 for the Club's monthly donation to TAP. These revenues and expenses resulted in \$29.56 net cash outflow. The Pass-Through Account took in \$3,045 and paid out \$1,669.30 for supplies, for a net inflow of \$1,375.70 during the month. Since the TAP Program began, the Pass-Through Account has received a total of \$32,701.38 and used a total of \$19,834.09, leaving a balance of \$12,867.29 in that account of which \$6,417 is reserved for lease/rent and utilities through next June. This leaves TAP with \$6,450.29 available for other operating expenses. The Treasury's bank balance at the end of September was \$16,988.62 of which \$12,867.29 is designated for the Pass-Through Account, leaving \$4,121.33 available for Club Operations.
- A detailed summary of Activity in the TAP Pass-Through Account also was distributed.
- In response to Schmeling's question of any proceeds from the garage sale, Sanders said that Crafters and Habitat only donate funds as they choose and he does not expect to receive funds, if any, after year end.
- Schmeling is beginning to prepare budgets now, so he asks for any input as soon as possible.
- A bill from Lou Miller for the website management is expected, so Dean Miller said he will remind him.
- **Jan Schneck motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report; Dennis Malcolm seconded. Board approved.**

Past President, Jim Peterson – No report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Committee

- Kutschera's written report stated that the General Meeting drew 28 members and 4 guests. He attributed the Detroit baseball game to the low turn-out this month.
- There were 10 new memberships and 8 renewals with 14 additional members for a total of 31 members. \$270 was delivered to the Treasurer.
- E-Mail bounce backs were manageable and corrected.
- One member expressed to Kutschera his complete satisfaction with Joe Solymossy and the First Level Support Team. He said this program absolutely adds value to the membership.
- Kutschera is collecting names of interested members for a spring tour, if possible, of the ORNL. To date he has 7 names.
- Schmeling mentioned that Kutschera had told him that someone had donated \$50 to the TAP Program.

Communications Committee

- Dean Miller said that he needs more information regarding the ORNL tours; where they will meet and what time. Malcolm commented that Kutschera plans to e-mail everyone who is going. Both tours are filled with the maximum 40 people already reserved.
- Sanders asked Miller what the procedure is for updating the website. Miller responded that it should be updated as soon as possible after the General Meeting, but he has to get the information in order to do that. Schmeling suggested the last meeting should be removed whether the next meeting has been

announced or not. Sanders opinion was it's better to have the last meeting information than to have nothing.

- Hopefully, in 2010 we'll have a Program Chairman and better organization.
- Miller has found that the website does not scroll smoothly, rather it kind of jumps. Lou Miller is working on that problem.

Program Committee

- Sanders expressed his very deep concern for the future of this Club. We have had no Program Chairman or Committee most of 2009 and still have none. Even more concerning, we have no nominees for President or Vice President for 2010.
- We have no program planned for November because of the tour to ORNL. For December, we have the FLS Committee to talk about what people can do to help the FLS serve them and/or to reduce their need to call on them.
- The election is on hold for now because we don't have candidates.
- We need to get information to the website as promptly as possible announcing events and programs. Schmeling and Mugge were both vocal about the need to put whatever information we do have on the website with "further details to follow." Include that these tours are filled and that Kutschera will be advising tourists by e-mail. Kutschera is out of town at this time.

First Level Support Committee

- Joe Solymossy advised Sanders that he will be out of town until November 7. Had 4 calls this month; all were easily solved. He's all set with a presentation for the December meeting.

Special Interest Groups Committee

- Stieghan told Sanders he has spoken with Karen Brown. She said the MAC SIG will be set up shortly. The necessary paperwork is being done.

Computer Education Committee

- Mugge had nothing to report.

Technology Access Program Committee

- Sanders reported that today he took 3 systems to Loudon High School. We now have given 308 systems to families with a total of 534 children.
- Jim Peterson was to talk to AT&T about faster service for the TAP facility. Some discussion followed regarding Charter as the server, but Schmeling said that we're stuck with a 1-year deal with AT&T.
- A favorable event occurred Monday; we got our first \$500 from the United Way. Sanders said we will get 6 of these through March 2010. Then we'll meet with them again to try to get on their 2010 list. He thanked Bob Mugge for his efforts in achieving these grants.
- Alline mentioned that Microsoft will increase their license fees 20% from \$5 to \$6. The name, formerly CMAR, will be changed to MRCCR (Microsoft Registered Community Refurbisher) sometime next year.

OLD BUSINESS

Plaques

- Sanders said that the presentation to Bob Wilson was touching. The other plaque is now displayed in the TAP facility.

Sales Tax

- Sanders said the issue seems to be put to bed for now. Schmeling discussed the matter with Jimmy Matlock at the Open House and he said he will look into it.

Nominations

- Sanders has gone through the Bylaws and found no procedure to follow when no nominees are found. Under the Bylaws, the slate should have been presented at the October meeting with the election at the November meeting. Conclusion: We have a problem.
- Sanders suggested that each Director take a quarter and serve as President one quarter and as Vice President one quarter.

NEW BUSINESS

Annual Meeting

- Sanders remarked that our present situation puts the Club in a very tenuous position. Questions arose regarding the potential of our tax-exempt status with no President and no Vice President. Schmeling does not think that would have any impact.
- A very long and very serious discussion ensued regarding the lack of participation by members. Several on the Board at this time have been serving for five years and more. This is true of the Committees, too.
- Mugge felt we need to ask ourselves what the Club is trying to do. We have tried to have classes, but

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have had no success in getting instructors. Our membership has not been forthcoming with ideas of what they want classes in either. What can we do to motivate the members?

- Mugge and Schmeling both thought that an e-mail needs to go to the full membership explaining the situation to them and declaring the dire state of the Club. Mugge offered to write such a letter.
- Sanders reminded the Board that we're already in violation of our own Bylaws. Without a Program Chairman, it's been tough to come up with programs. We need committees with responsible people. In addition, we've had no input from the membership as to what they're interests may be. We also run into problems with the varied abilities of the membership. Some are very computer savvy; others are very new to the technology. Some sort of solution has to be decided today regarding our lack of volunteers, in particular.
- After further lengthy discussion regarding what to do and how to do it, the following decisions were made:
 - 1) The General Meeting will be held on November 3. The Bylaws state that the nominees are to be presented to the membership at that meeting – one month prior to the Annual Meeting. Since there are no nominees, that cannot be accomplished.
 - 2) Mugge and Malcolm will look for something on Windows 7 that can be presented as a program. Failing that, Sanders will see if his son can come up with something.
 - 3) Dean Miller will put something on the website regarding the program to be presented and a summary of the uncertain future of the Club.
 - 4) Sanders will prepare a speech to express to members the dire situation now faced by the Club with no president or vice president, no chairman or members of the Program Committee, no input or volunteers from the membership, etc.
- **Dennis Malcolm motioned to postpone the election of Officers to January 2010. Jan Schneck seconded. Board approved.**

Meeting Attendance and Membership Apathy

- Dick Schmeling presented graphs showing the decline in membership and rather dramatic decline in meeting attendance; a visual summary of the topic already discussed.

Windows 7

- Alline commented that we now have Windows XP and Vista on our education systems. Nobody seems to have much interest in Vista. He wondered if we should now put Windows 7 on. Although the pricing is uncertain at this time, it comes out in about a week, so we should be able to budget then for next year. It was agreed, there is no reason to rush it in this year.

Change Club's Official Address

- Sanders suggested we change the official address to the box at More Than Mail. Notice will have to be filed with the bank, Federal and state tax authorities, APCUG, etc.
- **Dean Miller motioned to change the official address to 298 Village Square Drive, #128, Loudon, TN 37774. Dennis Malcolm seconded. Board approved.**
- Miller will advise Sharon Addison to change the address with Constant Contact (website).
- Schneck agreed to respond to the APCUG request to update of Club information. Schmeling will e-mail the forms to Schneck.

MEETING ADJOURNED 4:55 P.M.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING NOVEMBER 3, 2009 @ 7:00 AT THE YACHT CLUB

NEXT BOARD MEETING NOVEMBER 10, 2009 @ 3:00 PM AT THE CHOTA REC CENTER

Janice Schneck, Secretary